



UConn
Co-op

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March 15, 2010

Dear Chairperson and Committee Members,

I strongly support HB 5481 because the state badly needs the tax revenue and because as a Connecticut business, it is very difficult to compete with out of state online retailers who do not collect the 6% sales tax that we must collect.

I am the trade manager at the UConn Co-op, the bookstore serving the University of Connecticut and local community. We support writers and readers, offer a wide array of books, and have an active website. But today's readers too often opt to shop online where sales tax is not collected, rather than in our bookstore, or at other Connecticut retailers where sales tax is collected.

We understand the importance of the sales tax to our state and the services, such as roads and education, the tax supports. We are happy to do our share, and collect the tax. But we are not happy that this gives out-of-state online retailers a huge advantage over us and other Connecticut businesses. This inequity is hurting the UConn Co-op and hurting other Connecticut retailers.

I ask that you pass HB 5841. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Staubach

Manager General Books Division